AMENDED CLAIMS

[Received by the International Bureau on 07 September 2005 (07.09.05): original claims 1, 14, 18 and 23 amended; remaining claims unchanged; (4 pages)]

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What is claimed is:

- 1. A composition prepared from a plurality of materials comprising a Class 1 member, a Class 2 member, and a Class 3 member, said Class 1 member contributing approximately 0.1 percent to approximately 10 percent by dry weight of said composition, said Class 2 member contributing approximately 1 percent to approximately 10 percent by dry weight of said composition, and said Class 3 member contributing an amount up to a balance by dry weight of said composition, wherein the composition releases heat when an ambient temperature is about 5°C to about -15°C.
- 2. The composition of claim 1, wherein the composition is biodegradable.
- 3. The composition of claim 1, wherein the composition comprises particles.
- 4. The composition of claim 1, wherein the composition comprises solid particles.
- 5. The composition of claim 1, wherein the composition comprises nanoparticles.
- 6. The composition of claim 1, wherein the composition comprises particles having a molecular weight of from about 20,000 to about 50,000,000.
- 7. The composition of claim 1, wherein the composition comprises particles having an average diameter of from about 2 nanometers to about 1000 nanometers.
- 8. The composition of claim 1, wherein the composition comprises particles having an average diameter of from about 200 nanometers to about 500 nanometers.
- 9. The composition of claim 1, wherein the composition comprises particles having an average diameter of from about 100 nanometers to about 200 nanometers.
- 10. The composition of claim 1, wherein the composition comprises particles having an average diameter of from about 2 nanometers to about 200 nanometers.

11. The composition of claim 1, wherein the composition comprises particles having an average diameter of less than about 1000 nanometers.

- 12. The composition of claim 1, wherein the composition comprises particles having an average diameter of less than about 500 nanometers.
- 13. The composition of claim 1, wherein the composition comprises particles having an average diameter of less than about 200 nanometers.
- 14. The composition of claim 1, wherein the composition releases heat when an ambient temperature is about 3°C to about -14°C.
- 15. The composition of claim 1, wherein the composition releases heat when an ambient temperature is about 1°C to about -15°C.
- 16. The composition of claim 1, wherein the composition releases heat when an ambient temperature is less than about -5°C.
- 17. The composition of claim 1, wherein the composition releases heat when an ambient temperature is less than about -10°C.
- 18. A mixture comprising a polymer composition prepared from a plurality of materials comprising a Class 1 member, a Class 2 member, and a Class 3 member, said Class 1 member contributing approximately 0.1 percent to approximately 10 percent by dry weight of said polymer composition, said Class 2 member contributing approximately 1 percent to approximately 10 percent by dry weight of said polymer composition, and said Class 3 member contributing up to a balance by dry weight of said polymer composition, wherein the composition releases heat when an ambient temperature is about 5°C to about -15°C.
- 19. The mixture of claim 18, further comprising water.

20. The mixture of claim 18, further comprising water, said water contributing approximately 90 percent to approximately 99.5 percent of a total weight of said mixture.

- 21. The mixture of claim 18, further comprising a soybean protein composition.
- 22. The mixture of claim 18, further comprising one or more components selected from a group comprising micronutrients, macronutrients, pesticides, insecticides, herbicides, rodenticides, fungicides, biocides, plant growth regulators, fertilizers, microbes, soil additives, adhesion promoting-agents, surfactants, and freezing point modifiers.
- 23. A method comprising a plurality of activities comprising:

providing a mixture comprising water and a composition prepared from a Class 1 member, a Class 2 member, and a Class 3 member, said Class 1 member contributing approximately 0.1 percent to approximately 10 percent by dry weight of said composition, said Class 2 member contributing approximately 1 percent to approximately 10 percent by dry weight of said composition, and said Class 3 member contributing an amount up to a balance by dry weight of said composition, wherein the composition releases heat when an ambient temperature is about 5°C to about -15°C; and

coating at least a portion of a surface of an object with the mixture.

- 24. The method of claim 23, wherein the object is a plant material.
- 25. The method of claim 23, wherein the object is a human.
- 26. The method of claim 23, wherein the surface is human skin.
- 27. The method of claim 23, wherein the object is an animal.
- 28. The method of claim 23, further comprising spraying the mixture toward the surface.

29. The method of claim 23, further comprising preventing formation of ice on the surface.

- 30. The method of claim 23, further comprising preventing dehydration from the object.
- 31. The method of claim 23, further comprising reducing dehydration from the object.
- 32. The method of claim 23, further comprising reducing heat transfer via the surface.
- 33. The method of claim 23, further comprising reducing mass transfer via the surface.
- 34. The method of claim 23, further comprising reducing kinetic energy transfer to the object.